

High Courts and Subordinate Courts

Chapter 21: High Courts and Subordinate Courts · Topic 1

Key Concept

Each state (or group of states) has a High Court, which has jurisdiction over that state's legal matters, handling appeals and important cases.

High Courts have the power of judicial review within their jurisdiction, similar to the Supreme Court, but limited to state-level matters.

Subordinate courts, including district courts and lower courts, handle the majority of everyday legal cases, from civil disputes to criminal matters.

This hierarchical court structure ensures accessible justice at various levels, with appeals possible up to the Supreme Court for significant cases.

Quick Revision Notes

- Each state has a High Court.
- It has jurisdiction over the state's legal matters.
- High Courts handle appeals and important cases.
- They have judicial review power within their jurisdiction.
- Subordinate courts include district and lower courts.
- They handle everyday legal cases.
- This includes civil and criminal matters.
- The hierarchical structure ensures accessible, layered justice.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research your state's High Court.
- 2 Discuss the difference between High Courts and subordinate courts.
- 3 Explain the court hierarchy in India.
- 4 Research a case that went from a lower court to a High Court.
- 5 Discuss why layered courts help access to justice.
- 6 Explain judicial review at the state level.